(b) Russia maintains that these developments are inconsistent with the bilateral 1972 Anti-Ballistic Missile (ABM) Treaty that prohibits deployment of nation-wide ballistic missile defence systems or the creation of the basis for such a defence, threaten strategic stability and progress on arms control, and could trigger a new arms race. Such concerns have also been strongly articulated by China. The US, however, maintains that although no decision to deploy a National Missile Defence has been taken, its plans for a limited National Missile Defence do not threaten strategic stability and has proposed modifications to the ABM Treaty to accommodate these plans.

(c) India has consistently opposed weaponisation of outer space, described in international treaty law as the common heritage of all mankind. Government believes that arms control treaties need to be implemented fully and in good faith to maintain stability. Unilateral actions perceived to be inconsistent with existing treaties may reduce the prospects for further nuclear disarmament, a goal to which India is firmly committed, weaken non-proliferation constraints and encourage other nuclear weapon state to reconsider their strategic force modernization plans.

Implications of Accord reached in India

1310. SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD:
SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any accord has been reached between the rebel leader George Speight, the Fijian army and the great Council of Chiefs;

(b) if so, whether Government have studied the implications of the accord; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (c) The Muanikau Accord, signed on 9th July, 2000 between the Military and George Speight provided for the release of political hostages; the restoration of law and order; grant of immunity for George Speight and other rebels (subject to release of political hostages and return of arms, ordnances and stores to the military); establishment of an interim President and Interim Vice-President, and vesting power in the Interim President to establish an Interim Civilian Government (ICG).

The Government of India had welcomed the release of hostages, but reiterated our call for the restoration of a democratic and constitutional government within the framework of Fiji's Constitution of 1997. This continues to be our position.

Imposition of Sanctions by USA

1311. SHRI BRAHMAKUMAR BHATT: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the areas where USA had imposed sanctions since the nuclear tests;

(b) the sanctions withdrawn before and after the visit of President of USA;

(c) the details of the sanctions which have not been withdrawn; and

(d) the steps being taken to get them withdrawn?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) Under the provisions of its domestic law, the United States announced on 13th May, 1998 unilateral restrictions on assistance under its Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, except for humanitarian assistance and food and other agricultural commodities; grant of credit, credit guarantee, or other financial assistance by any department or agency of the US Government, including assistance from the US EXIM Bank, the Overseas Private Investment Corporation (OPIC) and the US Trade and Development Agency (TDA); extension of any loan for financial or technical assistance by any International Financial Institutions, except for humanitarian purposes; US Banks from making loans to Government of India, except for loans or credits for purchasing food and other agricultural commodities; defence-related sales and military financing under its Arms Export Control Act; export of any item on the United States Munition List; military cooperation and training programmes; exports of dual use items controlled for Non-Proliferation and Missile Technology reasons under the Export Administration Rules (EAR). In addition, the US published on 13th November, 1998 a list of over 200 Indian Government organisations, research institutions, public sector units and private companies—the so called the Entities List—which were subject to tighter export restrictions.

(b) and (c) The United States had lifted a number of unilateral restrictions before the visit of the US President. In addition, 51 organisations were removed from the so-called Entities List. Restrictions continue to be maintained on